

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 666

By Finney L

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Stephen B. Shanklin, Grand President of Sigma Phi Epsilon, for his numerous contributions to that distinguished fraternity.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly pause to specially recognize those citizens who, through their remarkable efforts, have distinguished themselves as civic and community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is Dr. Stephen B. Shanklin, who has served as the Grand President of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity since his election to that post in 2007 at the Grand Chapter Conclave, held in Atlanta that year; and

WHEREAS, in his capacity as a National Director, he serves the Board as liaison to the National Member Development Committee; although he devotes a considerable amount of his time to the National Fraternity, Dr. Shanklin also continues to forge new relationships with undergraduates by participating in Carlson Leadership Academies and appearing as a featured speaker at the Ruck Leadership Institute; and

WHEREAS, a 1970 graduate of Murray State University, Dr. Stephen Shanklin is a charter member of the Epsilon Chapter at that school; shortly after graduating from Murray State, he served Sigma Phi Epsilon as a Regional Director from 1970 to 1971; and

WHEREAS, he has also served as a District Governor, Chapter Counselor to five chapters, an Alumni and Volunteer Corporation member for seven chapters, and a Balanced Man Steward for three chapters; in addition, he has lent his considerable talents and energy to Sigma Phi Epsilon as a member of the Balanced Man Development Committee, the Volunteer Task Force, the National Recruitment Committee, and the Ritual and Values Committee; and

WHEREAS, deeply interested in helping the brothers of Sigma Phi Epsilon afford their college educations and realize their full potential, Dr. Stephen Shanklin is a donor to the Sigma Phi Epsilon Educational Foundation and a member of its Board of Governors as well; and

WHEREAS, as befits an alumnus of Dr. Shanklin's enthusiasm and dedication, he has garnered a number of prestigious Sigma Phi Epsilon awards; in 1996, he received the Distinguished Alumnus Award, and in 2001 he received the Order of the Golden Heart, the fraternity's highest honor, which goes only to those select few alumni who have demonstrated their commitment to volunteerism over the course of a lifetime; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the degree he earned at Murray State, Dr. Shanklin holds another bachelor's and a master's degree, both of which he received from the University of Tennessee, and he completed his education at Saint Louis University, from which he earned his Doctor of Philosophy in accounting and international business; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Shanklin previously taught at The University of Tennessee at Martin, Lambuth University in Jackson, Murray State University in Kentucky, Lane College in Jackson, and Union University in Jackson and he is now a Professor in the College of Business at the University of Southern Indiana, and he works as a consultant for the Center for Applied Research in Evansville; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Shanklin lives in Martin, Tennessee, with his wife, Darlene; his daughter, Anna, recently received her Master of Business Administration from Murray State University, and his son, Jon, an alumnus of the Indiana Zeta Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon at Valparaiso University, is a graduate student at the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, fraternities such as Sigma Phi Epsilon afford opportunities to socialize, build leadership skills, earn scholarships, and forge friendships, allowing brothers to enjoy a more productive and fulfilling college experience; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Shanklin visited and continues to visit hundreds of college campuses around the country during his many years of service and has literally touched the lives of thousands of college students who were seeking a mentor to help them in their quest for knowledge and service opportunities. Dr. Shanklin endeavors to instill within the spirit of each college student the attributes of virtue, diligence, and brotherly love for each student's

community. He regards his relationship with his Creator as sacred and the relationships with his family and students as a holy gift to be treated with the utmost reverence. Dr. Shanklin continues to advance any opportunity to build a new friendship and he endeavors to teach his fellow man only those qualities and characteristics that we should all hope to attain and that will certainly last forever; and

WHEREAS, thanks to the dedication of alumni such as Dr. Stephen Shanklin, Sigma Phi Epsilon has become the largest and one of the most prestigious national fraternities in the United States; its ability to offer members scholarship support and leadership through service to others has been immeasurably strengthened by Dr. Shanklin's contributions; and

WHEREAS, the strength of our nation's institutions of higher learning depends, in great measure, on the dedication of people such as Dr. Stephen Shanklin who work through fraternities to improve the quality of education for American college students; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Shanklin epitomizes the spirit of volunteerism and commitment to excellence that are characteristic of the true Tennessean, and for his efforts he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and recognize Stephen B. Shanklin, Grand President of Sigma Phi Epsilon, for his numerous contributions to that distinguished fraternity, thank him for all he has done on behalf of college students in this State and across the nation, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.